

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

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DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN:WMATTHEWS:JN
APPROVED BY ARA:TATODMAN

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O 080223Z JUL 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL BELIZE NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR PRIORITY
SECDEF NIACT IMMEDIATE
/USCINSCO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, BH, UK

SUBJECT: BELIZE DISPUTE: JOINT COMMUNIQUE SIGNED BY
BRITISH AND GUATEMALAN NEGOTIATORS

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE ENDING TWO
DAYS OF NEGOTIATIONS.

2. BEGIN TEXT: REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF
GUATEMALA AND OF THE UNITED KINGDOM MET IN WASHINGTON
ON 6/7 JULY IN A THIRD ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS AT
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MINISTERIAL LEVEL TO DISCUSS THE QUESTION OF BELIZE.
THE GUATEMALAN SIDE WAS LED BY DR. ADOLFO MOLINA ORANTES,
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF GUATEMALA. THE BRITISH
SIDE WAS LED BY MR. TED ROWLANDS MP, MINISTER OF STATE
AT THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE. THE BRITISH
SIDE INCLUDED THE HON. GEORGE PRICE, PREMIER OF BELIZE,
AND AN ALL-PARTY DELEGATION.

THERE WAS A DETAILED DISCUSSION OF THE MEANS BY WHICH THE CONTROVERSY OVER THE FUTURE OF BELIZE MIGHT BE SOLVED PEACEFULLY AND HARMONIOUSLY, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT

THE INTERESTS OF ALL PARTIES. IN THE COURSE OF THESE DISCUSSIONS BOTH SIDES PUT FORWARD PROPOSALS FOR RESOLVING THE QUESTION. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE PROPOSALS SUBMITTED WOULD BE THE SUBJECT OF THE MOST CAREFUL STUDY IN ORDER TO PURSUE THE NEGOTIATIONS TO A PEACEFUL SOLUTION ACCEPTABLE TO ALL PARTIES.

AMONG OTHER MATTERS THE BRITISH SIDE EXPLAINED THE PROCEDURES THAT HAVE BEEN FOLLOWED FOR BRINGING DEPENDENT TERRITORIES TO INDEPENDENCE, POINTING OUT THAT SUCH PROCEDURES INEVITABLY TOOK TIME, WERE ALWAYS PUBLIC AND NEVER SECRET. THERE COULD NOT THEREFORE BE ANY SUDDEN MOVE TO INDEPENDENCE FOR BELIZE.

THE TWO SIDES AGREED THAT IT WAS MOST DESIRABLE TO TAKE PROMPT AND APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO DECREASE TENSION AND UNDERTOOK TO DISCUSS THE NECESSARY STEPS TO ACHIEVE THIS PURPOSE IN ORDER TO PRESERVE PEACE IN THE AREA.

IT WAS ALSO AGREED THAT THE BRITISH MINISTER, MR. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ROWLANDS, WOULD VISIT GUATEMALA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO DISCUSS THE MEANS OF REDUCING TENSION AND THE NEXT STAGES IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. THEREAFTER, A DATE FOR THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE DECIDED. END TEXT. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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